

**On Call: Chair-Dan Morford, Pete Blume, Jim Fletcher, Claire Brown, Mike Hostetler, Mike Frary, Ken Kerr, Dave Carter**

(Kim Martin, Sherry Bauer, Paul Pool, Mark M., were unavailable for this call)

**Committee Membership:** We need to know who the FWS member will be who is going to replace Ken Kerr. Dave Carter will let Dan know after he makes a few calls. Because that position was also the current Vice-Chair, Dan spoke with the RMCG and Claire who were ok with swapping the FWS slot with the State slot for one year. Claire Brown will be the next chair and the FWS TBA will be the Vice Chair.

**RMCG Fall meeting update: Dan**

Dan, Jim, Kim, Don and Joe were at the meeting. Team closeouts went well. Dan presented the info that Pete and Bill had given him as they were not able to attend. Overall, all the teams did a good job of utilizing trainees and getting trainees signed off. We need to continue this. There are some taskbooks in the works for the CO State. The Platte County crew is asking to be typed as a Type 1 crew, or IHC...they have asked Platte to clarify. Prescribed fire billing in the works nationally for contractors. Darrell Ausborn presented the Native American crew plan, no real changes from the last five years. Discussions on the teams Dan wanted to relay to this committee in that the RMCG is very committed in looking at our teams and what we are putting in the field. Currently we do not have a Type 1 IC for 2008 field season. Kim Martin is unavailable and Dave Sisk is currently unavailable. RMCG will be looking at some other possibilities and beating the bushes a little bit in order for us to keep the T1 team in the RMA active. RMCG will be looking to fill the ICT1 and has a timeline to get that completed before January.

**Mob Guide review assignments: Dan**

**Teams** (Ch 22.9, 63) - Pete plus all IC's

**Crews** (Ch 22.2, 22.3, 62) - Hoss, Shawn Telford

**Equipment/Supplies** (Ch 23, 70) - Sherry, Claire

**Engine Personnel...Ch.76** - Hoss, Dave Carter, Dan M.

**Preparedness** (Ch 26) - Jim, Kurt

**Due date Feb 15<sup>th</sup>. (May discuss at January mtg, so look at it before then!)**

## **Team vacancies for 08/09 season: Dan**

Currently we do not have a Type 1 IC for 2008 field season. Kim Martin is unavailable and Dave Sisk is currently unavailable. RMCG will be looking at some other possibilities and beating the bushes a little bit in order for us to keep the T1 team in the RMA active. RMCG will be looking to fill the ICT1 and has a timeline to get that completed before January.

Ted Moore has had to step down as Deputy IC due to time constraints with his current job as Regional Safety and Training Officer. Marc Mullenix will remain the ICT1 Trainee.

Dan will be sending an email to the IC's asking them for what vacancies there are this coming season, so we can get an idea of what is needed before the January meeting, and to start working on this. Dan will then give this info to the RMCG who will take it to the executive boards to try to help facilitate getting some people made available.

## **S420/520 update: Dan**

Dan talked to Kim Bang. There is some kind of disconnect with NAFRI and S420/S520. It is important for us to keep track of the nominees and future possibilities, knowing that things come up and people are sometimes not able to attend. At this point S420 is Mark Rosenthal, Fenn Wimberly, Mary Ann Chambers. See the Jan 17, 2007 Ops Committee Meeting Notes for the S520/S620 3 year table. (2008-2010)

Dave Carter mentioned that David Lucas is a new employee for FWS from Georgia regional office FSC2 (T). He is going to the S520 course via a prior agreement with the Southern Geographic Area. He is also tied to a T2 team (Wilders) for the remainder of their rotation. Dave will check on the actual timeframe commitment.

## **January 2008 Meeting Date: Dan**

The January meeting date will begin January 9, 2008 at 1300 at RMACC. The first afternoon is for ICs and team reps to work through team vacancies. Jan 10<sup>th</sup> will be with the entire operations committee.

## **Miscellaneous:**

**Hoss** - the National Standard still calls for 2 people instead of three on Type 3-7 engines. He emailed the national update to the committee. The ops committee discussed Ch 76 (page 300) in RMA mob guide in depth. In Area as opposed to Out of Area mobilizations, etc. **Jim** - Unless it is spelled out on the resource order that the incident is requiring additional personnel, incoming engines will generally be staffed with the National standard, not the RMA standard. Talked over pros and cons.

**Action Item:** Dan will write up bullets and give to Dave Carter to present to RMCG for their consideration, and we will address it in Ch. 76 of the mob guide.

**Hoss** - Structure Protection Specialist (STPS) is now in the 310-1. Discussed the history on this in the RMA, and proposing that we adopt the national standard. **Conclusion:** Recommend that we go with the 310-1 as written on STPS.

**Action Item:** Dan will write up bullets and give to Dave Carter to present to RMCG on their Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> conference call.

**Brownie** - Concerned with how some positions are bringing their own personal kits that end up being added to the SERF agreements which ends up in spending a lot for reimbursements in daily rates. Example being computers, and software. **Ken** - this could be contractors with canned software coming with them. Daily reimbursement for that stuff doesn't seem to be appropriate. **Hoss** - if it is software, maybe we should be looking at getting it for our teams. **Jim** - seems like it would be something you seek approval for up front. Dan wondering if it could be mentioned in the mob guide somewhere? Brownie moves to remove it off the SERF agreements, and see how that

works. Dan - if equipment is needed, it can be added on the resource order.

**Mike Frary** - Yesterday he got an email from the IOS team in Boise regarding the FIRB issue - ignition specialist went away and now FIRB may be going away as well.

They have asked for comments by the first of next week. The IOS working team has totally eliminated the Firing Boss position and is proposing to disperse the training requirements into various taskbooks from ICT5 all the way up to DIVS. Now they are recommending that to qualify as a DIVS you need to have aerial ignition experience on a wildland fire incident. The chances of using aerial ignition on a wildfire is pretty low, so this will reduce the number of qualified DIVS we end up with. Similarly, the new requirements will adversely impact ICT5 to Single Resource Boss to TFLD/STLD.

Mike will send the IOS comment sheet to Dan who will send out to the rest of the ops committee. Get your comments to Mike by the COB Monday 10/29th. Mike will consolidate the comments and keep the group apprised.

Ken, one thing we were thinking about is asking them to take out the aerial ignition requirement out of the taskbook. One possibility is to make the aerial ignition a technical specialist, and when ordering you would ask for a THSP-plastic sphere dispenser, THSP-helitorch.

Dan - bottom line is that when you order a FIRB you still really don't know what you are getting.

**Next Operations Committee meeting January 9-10, 2008 at RMACC.**

**1/9/08 for IC's and Team Reps**

**1/10/08 for entire committee.**